

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 currently remain in the application. Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 9 are herein amended.

Claims 1 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Hsu; claims 1, 2, 6 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Lange; claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Lange in view of EP0505956A1; claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Hsu; and claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Lange. Claims 4, 5 and 8 were merely objected and found by the Examiner to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In spite of the Examiner's statement in Paragraph 18 of the Official Letter regarding possible allowance of claims 4, 5 and 8 by merely rewriting them in independent form, applicant herein elects to rewrite many of the claims including both independent claims 1 and 2 in view of the Examiner's reasons for the rejection and the cited references. The amendment being effected herein is identical to that which was effected in the corresponding application in Europe, as a result of which said European application has now matured into an issued patent EP1559358 (granted September 16, 2009).

As can be ascertained, amended independent claim 1 now includes a new set of limitations that the wiping unit is fitted in a rectangular outer frame, that the running unit is fitted in an inner frame turnable in this outer frame, and that the center of each frame is freely journaled.

It should be clear from the specification that these newly added limitations are well supported thereby, besides serving to distinguish the base invention of the present application from the cited references. Explained more in detail with reference to Fig. 1 on a sheet attached hereto, the base invention of the present application is characterized wherein both the inner frame 31 with the running unit and the outer frame 21 with the wiping unit are freely connected such that the moving direction of the running unit can be changed without changing the working

position of the wiping unit 20. Thus, corners of a windowpane can be wiped effectively.

Fig. 2 shows a robot 2 (according to a prior art technology therein referred to as "Document D1") which turns like an ordinary automobile and with which corners of a windowpane cannot be cleaned as indicated by shading lines.

These additional limitations, herein being introduced, are not disclosed or even hinted at by any of the cited references, and applicant therefore believes that the Examiner will find this new independent claim clearly allowable and hence that all the other pending claims that depend therefrom are also allowable.

In summary, it is believed that the instant amendment is completely responsive to the Office Action and hence that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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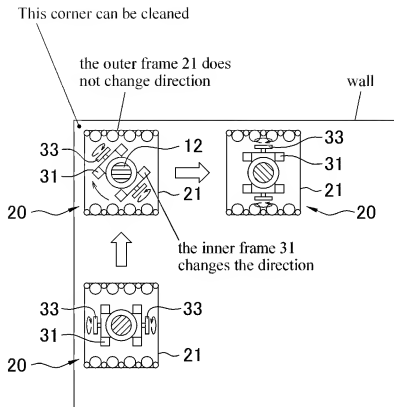


Fig.1

← The invention of this application

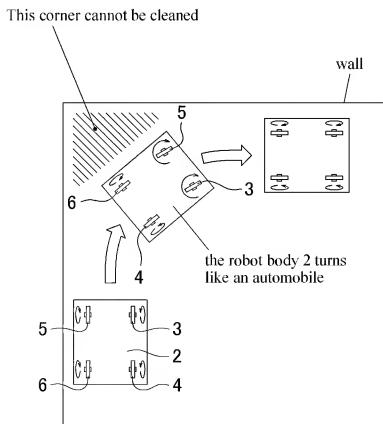


Fig.2

← The device imagined from Document D1